The 9th Annual Festival of The Arts BOCA To Dazzle With Ten Days Of Beethoven, Broadway, Ballet And Banjos

Authors & Ideas Program Reflects Views of Seven Acclaimed Authors With Six Combined Pulitzer Prizes

By Hillary Reynolds

The 9th Annual Festival of the Arts BOCA, presented by the Schmidt Family Centre for the Arts, will bring ten days of dazzling and diverse cultural experiences to South Florida March 6-15, 2015 at the Mizner Park Amphitheater, 590 Plaza Real and Mizner Park Cultural Arts Center, 201 Plaza Real (2nd Floor) in Boca Raton.

This season’s Festival opens on March 6 with the Florida premiere of An Evening with Arthur Laurents & Broadway’s West Side Story. Festival Orchestra Boca will play Leonard Bernstein’s West Side Story premiere of the ten time Academy Award winning film, which was in Israel during “Operation Protective Edge,” spoke of the tremendous dedication of the men and women of the IDF, the medics and paramedics of Magen David Adom and, of course, the strength and fortitude of the citizens of Israel. Moreover, he emphasized the need for additional ambulances due to the impending threats on all Israel’s borders.

Goodman was also pleased and excited to announce that a long standing donor, who wants to remain anonymous, has just made a sizable “matching gift” contribution to initiate a fundraising drive for ambulance #20 in 2015. Based upon our past fundraising record, we are confident that we can raise the funds necessary to match this contribution and, therefore, we definitely plan to dedicate Boca Pointe’s Ambulance #20 sometime next year. This is exciting news.

Magen David Adom is the common thread that touches the lives of every Israeli, responding to accidents, illnesses, heart attack, pregnancies, strokes and, of course, terrorist incidents. MDAs professional medical responders and its team of trained volunteers provide Israel’s pre-hospital emergency medical needs, including medical disaster ambulances, and all blood services. The MDA’s National Blood Service Center provides 100% of the blood requirements for Israel’s Defense Forces (IDF) and 95% of the blood requirements for all Israeli Hospitals and the general population.

To make a donation to this vital organization to help us reach our goal for Ambulance #20 or to obtain further information, please call Burt Goodman at (561) 362-6556 or Burtgoodman@comcast.net. Please help Magen David Adom to “Save Lives in Israel” any many thanks in advance for your continued support.

The Agenda

• The Festival will close with a spectacular concert featuring the Master Chorale of South Florida and Festival Orchestra Boca led by Constantine K Konoplos. and the Young People’s Chorus of New York and Beethoven’s Ninth Symphony with pianist Conrad Tao, who at 13 years old made his debut at the 2008 Festival, and Arnaud Sussmann, rising star violinist and protégé of the great Itzhak Perlman, with the Festival Orchestra Boca.

• Other highlights include: Stars of International Ballet featuring National Ballet of Canada & Friends; a Mozart Gala bringing Sondheim live, while the newly re-mastered film is shown in glorious high definition on the big screen with the original vocals and dialog intact. This classic romantic tragedy, directed by Hal Prince and starring the legendary rock star, Michael Douglas, will present “Let Me Be Frank With You”; Physician, researcher and Pulitzer Prize-winning author of The Emperor of All Maladies: A Biography of Cancer, Siddhartha Mukherjee; Thomas Friedman, New York Times columnist, three-time recipient of the Pulitzer Prize, best-selling author of The World Is Flat, and co-author of That Used to Be Us: How America Fell Behind in the World It Invented and How We Can Come Back; Lucinda Franks, author of memoir, My Father’s Secret War and Timeless: Love, Morgenthau and Me who will speak about “Love and Politics”; Martin Goldsmith, author of Alex’s Wake; A Voyage of Betrayal and a Journey of Remembrance and, previously, The Inextinguishable Symphony; and Clive Thompson, renowned technology expert, longtime contributing writer for the New York Times Magazine, columnist for Wired, will speak about his latest work Smarter Than You Think: How Technology is Changing Our Minds for the Better.

Tickets for the 9th Annual Festival of the Arts BOCA range from $15 to $125 per person and are available at www.festivalboca.com or by calling (866) 571-ARTS (866-571-2787). Multi-event and Full Festival packages are also available.

About The Festival:
Gearing up for its 9th season, the Festival of the Arts BOCA is an extraordinary, multi-day cultural arts event for South Florida. The Festival brings to its audiences the world’s most sought after jazz, classical performers and authors while simultaneously cultivating the stars of tomorrow. IMG Artists, a leader in worldwide cultural arts management and producer of world-renowned festivals from California to Singapore to Abu Dhabi, is once again collaborating with the Schmidt Family Centre for the Arts at Mizner Park in the planning and execution of Festival of the Arts BOCA 2015.

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